



THE METER

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



"A measure of student opinion"

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February 23, 1995

Gentry remembered as builder of monuments

Howard Cornelius Gentry Sr., who led Tennessee State University to its most celebrated athletic moments, will be remembered as a builder - a builder of monuments through the lives of those he coached, taught and befriended across this nation.

Coach Gentry, who came to TSU in 1949 as an assistant football coach and later served as head football coach and athletic director, died February 14 after a 16-year battle with cancer.

A memorial service for him was held in the Gentry Center Athletic Complex on February 17. Funeral services were held the next day at First Baptist Church, Capitol Hill, where Coach Gentry served as a trustee. Burial was in Veterans Cemetery in Madison.

"He exemplified quality, and quality is no accident," said James Buford, who captained the 1956 Tennessee State football team that won the black collegiate national football championship that year under Coach Gentry's direction.

Dr. Bernard Crowell, head of TSU's Health and Physical Education Department, and a former coach at Langston University in Oklahoma, described Coach Gentry during the memorial service as a friend to both players and coaches.

"He was firm yet sensitive to others," Crowell said.

Louis Spry, associate executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, said Coach Gentry was a man of "grace, humor, service and integrity."

"He was also a gracious host and one who you always felt warm around," Spry said.

When he was appointed athletic director in 1961, Coach Gentry set new standards for the school and became a national leader in the field. He retired from the position in 1976, but served briefly as interim athletic director in 1986.

**Gentry memorial
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**How Gentry became
head coach- Page 2**

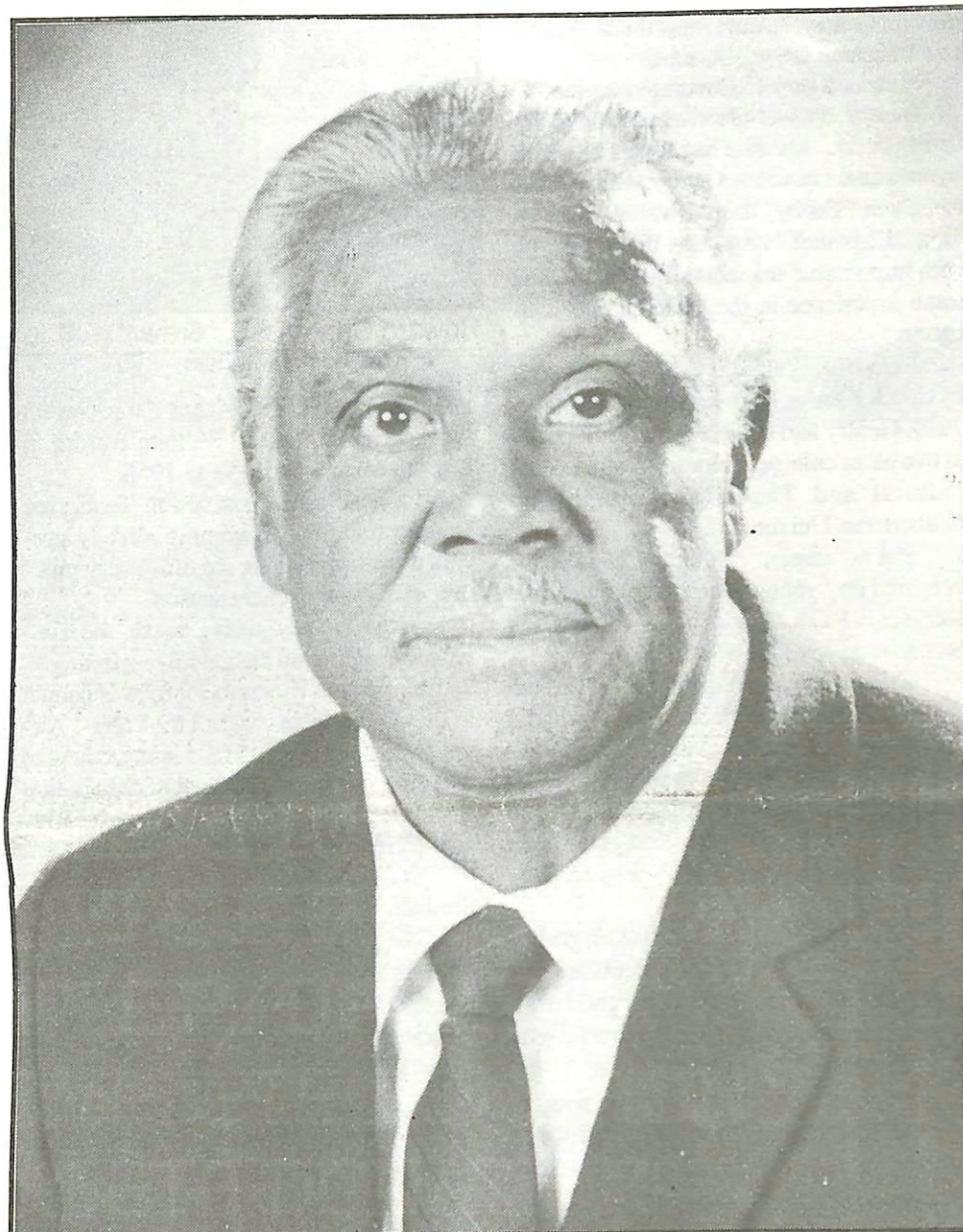
In honor of his dedicated and distinguished service, the university named its primary athletic and entertainment facility the Howard C. Gentry Physical Education, Recreation and Convocation Complex when it was completed in 1980.

Coach Gentry was dedicated in his service to TSU and was very active in the community. In addition to his church activities, he was a lifetime member of the National Association of Colored People; and a board member of the Optimist Club of Central Nashville and the American Red Cross. He was also a member of the Nashville Urban League, the Advisory Council for Nashville Public Television and many other volunteer organizations. Of all his charitable work, his most rewarding was as a volunteer "grandpa" to children at Caldwell and Wade elementary schools.

In 1947, Coach Gentry, who was an All-American football player at Florida A&M University, married the former Carrie McLaughlin. A former TSU faculty member and retired director of the Aristocrat of Band's majorettes, Mrs. Gentry survives.

Coach Gentry is also survived by a son, Howard C. Gentry Jr., who was named the school's athletic director last summer. Coach Gentry's daughter-in-law, Judy Gentry,

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Howard C. Gentry Sr., TSU's former head football coach and athletic director

Murrell 'maker of men'

Most people who knew Robert N. Murrell commonly called him "Dean," but he was also called a "father away from home," a "friend" and a "maker of men."

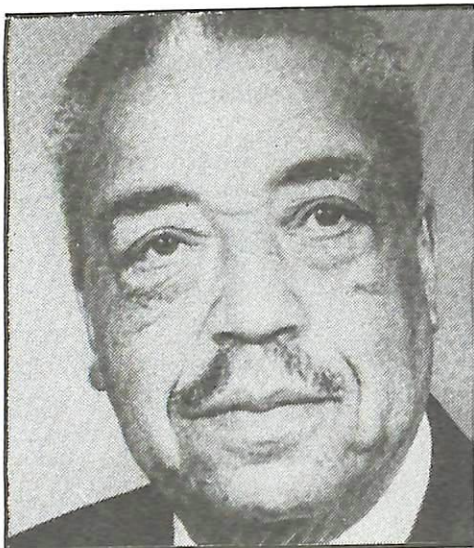
Some people also say that Dean Murrell probably had more positive impact on young black men in Nashville during the past 30 years than any other person.

Dean Murrell, retired TSU Dean of Men, died February 8 in Vanderbilt University Medical Center from complications of congestive heart failure.

Services for retired Tennessee State University Dean of Men Robert N. Murrell, 75, were held Saturday, February 11, at Temple Baptist Church.

Burial was in Greenwood Cemetery. The Rev. Michael Lee Graves, pastor of Temple Baptist Church, officiated.

A native of Belle City, Tenn., Dean Murrell was reared in Mayfield, Ky. He was the youngest of the two children of



Robert Murrell, former Dean of Men

Robert and Minnie Maxwell Murrell.

Dean Murrell received his early education in Mayfield and entered TSU, then known as A&I State College, in 1939 on a

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Phone registration coming

By Roger Lee Randles
News Editor

TSU students -- many of whom have complained in the past about the school's slow registration process -- will be happy to know that in the near future phone registration at TSU will be a reality.

During an orientation class speech, on Tuesday, Jan. 31, in the A Auditorium, Dr. James A. Hefner told students that work is being done to steadily improve the registration process. "In the near future, our students will be able to register by phone with our new fiber optic telecommunications network. Registration will be speedy and simple," Hefner said. TSU's president said the new system will be tested this summer or fall semester.

The 500 freshmen in attendance were assured right up front that their decision to attend TSU was a good one when Dr. Hefner cited the Sept. 26, 1994 issue of *U.S. NEWS and WORLD REPORT* which labeled TSU "... one of the best universities in the nation."

"We have earned the ranking as an outstanding university, and plan to maintain the momentum of our growth

so that you can learn and thrive at one of the most leading institutions in the country," Hefner said confidently.

Hefner next addressed the metamorphosis currently taking place on campus: "TSU is completing our \$112 million capital improvements project, through which we will build seven new facilities and renovate all existing buildings."

After calling attention to the fact that the Floyd-Payne Campus Center and the Boswell Science Complex are "... just two of the facilities we have completed in recent years," Hefner went on to say that "By the end of the spring, we will open the new women's residence hall and break ground on a new administration building."

Next, Hefner talked about making the campus pedestrian friendly: "... we took down the walking bridge about two weeks ago. We want to make the campus one of the most beautiful campuses in the country, a place where you can enjoy learning and growing socially," said Hefner.

The freshmen learned of plans to build an amphitheater in the center of campus "for concerts and other special events."

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Gentry's legend began with luck of the draw

Reprinted from *A will to Win*

It was in the spring of 1955, right after Henry Arthur Kean's first heart attack and eight months before his death that all his assistant coaches were called into a small office on the Tennessee State campus.

A sheet of paper was torn into strips, a large black X was marked on one of them and then they were tossed into a hat.

Four coaches -- Shannon Little, Howard Gentry, J.C. Coffee and Lawrence Simmons -- were told to draw: The one who drew the X would become acting head coach of the Tiger football team.

"It just so happened that I was the first to draw," said then assistant line coach Howard Gentry. "And I drew the X. That's how I became the top person."

"It was a very frightening situation."

Gentry, 34, would have been one of the first to admit that fate had tossed him into an awesome situation. Gentry, whose nickname was "Tubby" despite his imposing 6-foot, 212-pound frame, was the quiet type with impeccable manners. But he had had some experience in the "take-charge" category.

Before being hired as assistant line coach by Coach Kean at Tennessee State in August 1949, Gentry had served as assistant coach at two other colleges -- North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College and Wilberforce University.

But no amount of training could have prepared any young coach to follow a man like Henry Kean, a nationally revered coach whose career record was 163-31-5.

Gentry had no illusions of a smooth transition. He was expecting trouble, and it came -- three games into the 1955 season.

"I was told that we were not going to change Coach Kean's system one bit," Gentry said. "Well, we won the first game, then won the second game by only a small margin."

"But we lost the third and fourth games. Langston beat us 3 to 0 and Grambling beat us 12 to 0. We didn't have a very good team, at least we didn't have a very powerful team like the one we had the year before."

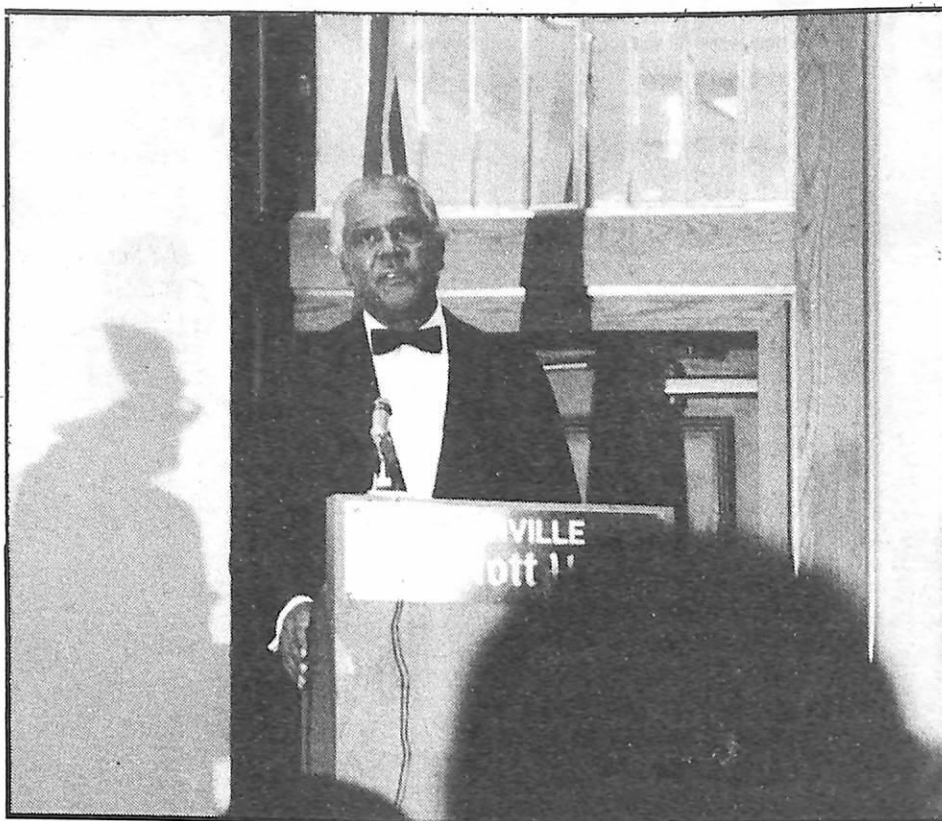
"You see what had happened was that our All-American quarterback Fred Valentine had gotten a professional baseball contract and left school, and our All-American receiver Leon Jamison had come in with a locked knee and couldn't play."

"So basically, we were trying to run a system with a pro-type offense without the material to do it. When Grambling beat us, it showed us that we didn't have any kind of an offense at all."

"That's when I went out on my own and changed the offense. We didn't lose another ball game for the next 24 straight. In the process, we had two undefeated seasons, and we won the National black championship in 1956."

As the Tigers began to roll under Gentry, President Davis let out a sigh of relief.

"The desire to win might have first been



Howard Gentry, Sr., "drew the X" to become TSU's renowned coach

instilled by Davis and Kean, but it carried over to Gentry," said William Buford, a Tiger lineman from 1953 to 1956.

"By the time I arrived at Tennessee State, a tradition of winning already prevailed over everything we did -- every practice, every game, every season."

Under the new acting coach, the Tennessee State squad paraded to a winning 7-2-0 record, and Howard Gentry was named as the official head coach of the Tigers. And the following year, 1956, Gentry emerged as a first-rate coach in his own right, carrying his team to the prestigious Orange Blossom Classic in Miami, Florida.

"It was the Rose Bowl of black college football," said Gentry. "We wanted to win."

The game also meant something more, perhaps even more important: It offered President Davis a chance to see his dream begin to become reality. Thousands of fans were expected to swamp the Miami stadium, especially for the 1956 bowl, because of the intense, long-standing rivalry between Tennessee State and Florida A&M.

And the Tigers were as prepared for the contest as they could get. In fact, Gentry and his assistant coaches had started scouting the Florida A&M Rattlers a year earlier when it first appeared that the two teams would meet in the bowl game in 1956. A day before the 1955 Orange Blossom Classic, Gentry had packed two of his assistant coaches -- J.C. Coffee and Samuel Whitmon -- and Tennessee State band director Frank Greer into his car and headed down to Miami to watch the Florida A&M team play Grambling University -- a game which gave Florida a 28-21 win.

"We had enough money to stay in a motel one night and a Shell credit card," Gentry said. "We just wanted to go down

there and see how they conducted themselves at the game on the chance that we would be playing against them the next year."

"We wanted to look over the coaching and things like that as well as the band."

In addition to the heated rivalry between the Tennessee State and Florida A&M football squads, there was every bit as much rivalry between the schools' two bands, the Tennessee State "Aristocrats of Bands" and the Florida A&M "Marching 100."

And Gentry knew that the bands often played crucial, unexpected roles in the ballgames.

"Right before the game, you look up into the stands, see those friendly faces, hear their good music and it makes you feel good," Gentry said. "It does something to make you want to go a little harder. And sometimes, if a player hears his band while the game is in progress, you're in trouble."

The Orange Blossom Classic of 1956 turned into just that kind of game. It was reported in this newspaper account: **TIGERS DEFENSE STOPS RATTLERS INCHES FROM GOAL LINE IN FINAL MOMENTS OF GAME**

MIAMI, Fla. -- The Tigers of Tennessee State University had a will to win and a determination that the Rattlers of Florida A&M "shall not pass" in the annual Orange Blossom Classic, and as a result, the Nashvillians came out on the long end of a 41-39 tally.

It was dog eat dog from beginning to end, as both teams pulled out all of their offensive tricks. The fact that the tigers of Tennessee State converted two more PAT's than did the Florida boys meant the difference between the National Championship and runner-up.

Both teams had slashed and battered

their way all even but the Tigers of Nashville came down to the final minute of the hectic contest nursing a two-point lead. Famu (Florida A&M) recovered a Tiger fumble on the latter's 33, and it was Tennessee State which right now was about to press a dying pillow.

The mighty Willie Galimore ran the ball 32 yards to the Tiger one. Then a line buck carried within inches of the goal line. The Tigers got the benefit of a delaying penalty right here which they will never forget. Famu was hit for five yards for delay of game. Three line plunges made up the penalty but not the few necessary inches needed to score the TD...

"There were 45,000 people at the ballgame," Gentry said. "That was what Dr. Davis had been talking about all those years."

For the superb 1956 season, Gentry was named Coach Of The Year by Atlanta's 100% Wrong Club.

The winning years continued for Gentry, with the Tigers racking up respectable seasons of 5-0-1 in 1957, 4-4-0 in 1958, 9-1-0 in 1959 and 7-3-0 in 1960. But a few months after the close of the 1960 football season, President Davis decided to make several major changes within the administrative structure of the athletic department at Tennessee State.

The opportunity for change came when Raymond Kemp, athletic director since shortly after Henry Arthur Kean's death, resigned. Kemp, a former head football coach at Missouri's Lincoln University, stayed on at the school as a sociology professor but cut his administrative ties with athletics.

President Davis proceeded to look around for a new athletic director very slowly and carefully because he knew that the future of the expanding athletic program hinged heavily upon his choice.

"President Davis wanted somebody that was well respected on the campus and off," said Davis' administrative assistant, Homer Wheaton. "The president wanted our program to grow so that we could play bigger opponents and some white teams. He was looking for somebody who would not embarrass the institution or the race in an integrated situation."

Davis first thought of former head Tiger basketball coach Johnny McLendon, who had left the school two years earlier in 1959 to become the first black to head a professional basketball team. But McLendon was unable to accept Davis' offer at the time.

"Dr. Davis and I were having lunch one day, and I told him I didn't think the university could wait much longer for him to name a new athletic director," Wheaton said. "I asked him if he had ever considered naming Howard Gentry to the job."

"Dr. Davis said he hadn't, but that it sounded like a pretty good idea. Gentry was the kind of guy that would never lie or anything like that. He looked good all the way around."

TSU phone registration soon a reality

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The next items on Hefner's agenda were scholarships (The Vernon Winfrey Scholars Program provides ten \$5000 scholarships annually to deserving students.), and Chairs of Excellence (Two Chairs of Excellence have recently been initiated -- one in business for \$1.2 million and one in engineering for \$1.5 million).

Then came the subject of academic growth: "Last spring, TSU initiated a chapter of Phi Kappa Phi, the most prestigious honor society incorporating scholars from all academic disciplines," Hefner said.

Continuing the academic theme, Hefner stated that "our College of Business recently received full accreditation for its graduate and undergraduate programs from the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business. We are the only institution in Nashville -- and one of only 25 percent nationwide -- to hold dual accreditation."

More on academics: "Our Africana Studies Program, which will hold its grand opening April 7 and 8, is the only pure Africana Studies program in the Southeast, and the only one offered by an HBCU (Historically Black College or University)," said Hefner.

TSU's commander-in-chief then touched briefly on academic support, first covering the President's lecture series: "We have invited campus and community leaders to meet with you and discuss a variety of subjects," Hefner said. He then encouraged students to "... attend the lectures as often as possible."

Hefner introduced the second support system: the Academic Intervention Center by telling students, "If you need help, don't be afraid to ask."

Hefner also said that mentoring programs have been strengthened at the university.

Gentry remembered

Continued from Page 1

teaches in the university's health and physical education department. She is also the current director of majorettes.

A daughter, Carol Gentry Johnson of Los Angeles, is a TSU graduate and a former majorette.

Other survivors include two brothers, Harry and Joseph Gentry of Columbus, Ohio; two sisters, Angeline Greer and Bessie Smith of Columbus; a son-in-law, A.P. Johnson Jr., Los Angeles, and four grandchildren.

The family asks that donations be made to the Howard C. Gentry Athletic Endowment Scholarship Fund at TSU.

TSU Security to add mountain bike patrol

By Roger Lee Randles
News Editor

Tennessee State University's security officers will soon be pedaling around campus on two new mountain-bikes.

The workout provided by the bikes is certain to develop better-conditioned officers --but exercise is not the main goal. TSU's Department of Safety and Security recently ordered two specially-equipped patrol cycles in order to better protect and serve the TSU community.

"We are going to institute a bicycle patrol ... We hope to have that going this semester," Raimon Patton, director of the TSU Security Police Department said during a recent interview.

"The bike patrol is a professional crime response tool that will bridge the gap between the foot-patrol and the motor-patrol," Patton said.

Bike patrols are springing up all over



Patton, TSU's Director of Security

the country and two local agencies have already jumped on the bandwagon. Sgt. Michael Von Dohlen is in charge of the Metro Police Department mountain-bike patrol unit, which has been chewing up Nashville streets and spitting out bad-guys

since October of 1993.

"They take care of more crime than a car," Von Dohlen said of the bikes.

"Communication is the biggest benefit -- you speak to the people, they speak to you. The interaction between citizens and officers is great; people come up to you and tell you what's going on."

Vanderbilt University's Security Department has also had success with its three-year-old mountain-bike patrol unit. Said Director of Security Saul Chafin: "They can go where a patrol car can't, off roads, into the core of the campus, up and down stairs. They're perfect for direct observation." He added "the bike officer can get up on people before they know he's there."

"Students like the bike patrol, officers like it, and it saves money on gas and oil."

Chafin also pointed out that VU's bike patrol operates around the clock -- two officers per shift -- in all but very extreme weather conditions.

The TSU Campus Security Handbook

lists reported crimes for the years 1991-93, and it shows that during the three-year period 39 motor-vehicles were stolen, there were 13 robberies, 55 burglaries, 23 cases of assault and three of rape or attempted rape.

According to Patton, the addition of a bike patrol will lead to tremendous deterrent of crime on the TSU campus. However, he also made it clear that other steps are being taken to improve campus security. Long-awaited outdoor security telephones will be placed at several locations around the campus in the near future.

"The areas for the phones will be chosen by mid-February," Patton said.

A supplier will then be selected by a bid process after which the phones will be installed, Patton said.

Patton discussed the construction project that is now underway, which he said will include additional lighting and eliminate much of the traffic which now cuts through TSU's main campus. "I feel the campus will be much more secure after the new project is completed," he said.

Radon, second leading cause of lung cancer

The cold days of winter are the best time to test your home for radon, advises the American Lung Association of Tennessee. Radon, the second leading cause of lung cancer, threatens many Tennessee families who don't know their home contains the radioactive gas. As many as 16% of Tennessee homes have a radon problem, but in some areas, three out of ten houses will have dangerous levels.

Radon is an odorless radioactive gas which occurs naturally in the bedrock and soil throughout much of Tennessee. Considered more dangerous than second hand tobacco smoke, it can become concentrated in homes without the residents ever

realizing they have a problem. The American Lung Association urges all families to test their homes for radon during this season.

Testing is easy to do with inexpensive test kits available from local hardware or discount department stores or from the American Lung Association of Tennessee. In most cases after the repairs, radon levels drop to an acceptable level.

For test kits and additional information on radon, call the American Lung Association of Tennessee at 1-800-432-LUNG (615-329-1151 - Nashville) or the State Radon Hotline at 1-800-232-1139.

MURRELL: Maker of men

Continued from Page 1

football scholarship. He continued in school until he was drafted into the military, where he served in the Quarter Master Corps in the AVS component with the rank of corporal.

Upon his discharge from service, he returned to Tennessee State, continued his major in history and received a bachelor's degree. He later earned a master's degree in counseling and guidance. (Continued on Page

He then immediately joined the staff at Tennessee State as a resident hall assistant. For the next 33 years, he would work in the division of Student Affairs at the university as director of housing, director of Clement Hall, with the bulk of his career being spent as dean of men.

While serving as dean of men, he touched literally thousands of TSU students from all parts of the United States. The students speak with praise and appreciation whenever they speak of "Dean Murrell" or "Dean," the affectionate terms bestowed upon him by students, faculty and all who came in contact with him.

"When you landed at Tennessee State, Dean Murrell was the father away from home," Congressman Harold Ford, who represents Tennessee's 9th District, told his audience several years ago while giving a commencement address at TSU. "If it had not been for Dean Murrell, Harold Ford might not be in Congress today serving the people of Tennessee."

Another former TSU student, Dr. Frank Sessions, who practices family medicine in

Pittsburgh, said: "Dean Murrell really showed concern and compassion for students and their problems. He was always willing to go the extra mile."

Dean Murrell once said "one of my greatest pleasures is hearing from former students when they return to the campus for alumni meetings and everywhere I go. It makes me feel great to see former students who have become lawyers, educators, doctors, business leaders and engineers, in all parts of the country."

Dean Murrell was a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and Temple Baptist Church.

In 1988, he was TSU's homecoming honoree. In 1987, a scholarship was established in Dean Murrell's honor for the purpose of making a difference between a student being able to obtain a college degree or "a mind going to waste."

"I never regretted work one single day, and I plan to continue to do something for or with young people for their sake and mine," he said when the scholarship was established.

Dean Murrell was married to Dr. Barbara Murrell, a former Miss TSU and Vice President of Student Affairs.

Survivors, in addition to his wife, include a son, Claude P. Murrell, Sr. Chicago; daughter-in-law, Trudy Murrell, Chicago; a brother-in-law, Andre Greene; two sisters-in-law, Irene Parham, Oxford, N.C., and Julia Lattier, Cleveland, Ohio, and a grandson, Claude P. Murrell Jr., Chicago.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Old honors society gains new look

Did you know that one of the most prestigious collegiate honor societies in the United States was founded at Tennessee State University?

Well, many people might not know, but Alpha Kappa Mu Honor society was founded at Tennessee State University (then, Tennessee A & I) on November 26, 1937.

It was conceived by Dr. George W. Gore, Jr., who was then TSU's Academic Dean. It was Dr. Gore's wish that an honor society be established that did not discriminate, and unlike other honor societies, such as Phi Beta Kappa and others, did not vote upon membership.

Representatives from five local his-

torically Black collegiate honor societies, Alpha Delta Sigma of West Virginia State College; Gamma Tau of North Carolina A & T; Alpha Epsilon of Bennett College; Beta Tau Upsilon of Tuskegee Institute, (now Tuskegee University); and Phi Beta Tau of Tennessee A & I College (TSU) met in November 1937, and "The Federation of Honor Societies" was formed. During the Third Annual Convention at Arkansas A.M. & N State College, in December 1939, the "Federation" was changed to Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Society. In 1952, Alpha Kappa Mu was inducted into the Association of College Honor Societies. It has over 76 active chapters and 6 alumni chapters.

Malaria: still a threat to many

Even a brief visit to malaria-prevalent areas can expose travelers to the world's No. 1 infectious disease. "Even a short stopover in an out-of-the-way airport where officials have not taken the proper measures to control malaria-spreading mosquitoes can be dangerous," said Dr. James H. Runnels of the Travel Medicine Service at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

The mosquitoes feed at night, Runnels said, so dusk to dawn is the most dangerous time. It is the female Anopheles mosquito that transmits malaria.

The riskiest areas are Central and South America, sub-Saharan Africa, India, Southeast Asia and South Pacific islands.

There are different forms of malaria,

some more dangerous than others. A very common infection in much of the world, it can be particularly dangerous for the very young or very old or for people with other health problems, Runnels said.

When taken properly, prescription medications can significantly limit the risk of infection. Generally, these medications must be started a week before entering the malaria-infected region, he said. In many areas, the older drug chloroquine has now become ineffective. For these regions, mefloquine, doxycycline or other medications may be effective, Runnels said.

Some people can experience side effects or be unable to safely take these drugs at all, so consultation with a travel-medicine physician is recommended.

Kaplan offers test drive to students:

Take a test drive of the LSAT, MCAT, GMAT and GRE tests that is. Students "stressed-out" about applying to graduate school can get a run on the dread admissions exams at a test drive offered by Kaplan Educational Centers, at college campuses across the country.

On Feb. 25 and 26, students preparing for the LSAT, MCAT, GMAT, and GRE can take a practice test, learn valu-

able test-taking strategies, and receive a detailed computer analysis of their performance.

The exams will be administered free of charge, under simulated test conditions. Kaplan, the nation's largest test preparation organization, offers the test drive as a public service to students. Those interested in participating can reserve a space by calling (615) 383-8638.

"A people without the knowledge of their past history, origin, and culture is like a tree without its roots." *Marcus Garvey*

Hazing must stop: Fisk psychologist

By Takiyah Y. Carter
Staff Writer

Harsh words were delivered to TSU students by panelists at an SGA sponsored seminar titled *The Greek System: History, Hazing and Harassment*.

"Hazing must be stopped. Life is too precious to waste on hazing," said Roosevelt H. Faulkner, a psychologist from Fisk University.

Students of all classifications, both Greek and non-Greek, gathered in the LRC Auditorium to hear speakers address issues of Greek behavior and the history behind it.

The speakers in the seminar came together to try to eliminate hazing, stereotypes, and fear of being a part of a Greek letter organization. Students were told to study their roots before trying to pledge a Greek organization. "Our African-American students can read and write every letter of the Greek alphabet yet they can't comprehend a word of Swahili," said James Threkill, former executive director of 100 Black Men of Nashville.

This statement offended many Greeks attending the seminar. "I just wanted to let you know I do recognize my culture and I do comprehend Swahili," said Caronda Dawson, a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority who was dressed in complete African attire.

During the question and answer period many students loosened up and spoke about how they felt about hazing in general. Many Greeks disagreed with hazing and were on the students' side.

"Most people haze because it is their personal ignorance and lack of knowledge," said Taffany Bradley of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

SGA president and Delta Sigma Theta member, Angela Dixon added: "People only do to you what you allow them to do."

But some students tried to justify hazing in defense. "If you allow yourself to be hazed then you deserve to be hazed," Brandon Adams of Phi Beta Sigma said.

Students left the auditorium a little more at ease concerning what seems to be a very sore subject around campus. "I felt the seminar was very informative and I hope

they will continue to take place to keep students out of the dark on what may one day affect a big part of their life as a college student," said David Cheatham, a junior in mechanical engineering.

The seminar was coordinated by Erice Doss, the psychologist for Student Affairs at Tennessee State University. Doss is a native of Nashville and a TSU alumnus with a degree in sociology. She also received a master's degree in vocational rehabilitation counseling at the University of Tennessee and a doctorate at Vanderbilt University.

Doss has coordinated many seminars for TSU, such as Male and Female Relationships, Reverse Discrimination and Date Rape. "I like to do something for the whole campus in general and focus it on students, faculty and staff," Doss said.

"I guess I have been bringing up topics that are pretty controversial and now one of the biggest issues occurring is hazing. I think we should sit down and talk it out to see if we can find a solution to make things

better," Doss said. Not only did Doss express her concern as a psychologist but as a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., noticing that times have changed compared to when she pledged in 1979. "I've gone through hazing although I didn't see it as that at the time," Doss said.

Panelists for the seminar included Threkill, Faulkner, John Williams, director of the Academic Intervention Center at Tennessee State University and member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; and Henry Atwater, director of the Education Support Program at Meharry Medical College and member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity.

The SGA plans to hold a similar seminar at least once a year. Doss plans to continue to implement such programs if they continue to deliver a positive message to students. Doss would like all the students to remember that, "As students you must realize you are in this struggle together and we don't need anything to separate us, even more than we already are."

TSU's African-American Read-in



TSU Professor Gloria Johnson reads a selection for the African-American Read-in at the Learning Resource Center on campus. During the Read-in people read and shared selections from their favorite works by African-American authors and poets.

Collier, 1971 TSU graduate, nominated District Court judge

By Judy Frank

Assistant U.S. Attorney Curtis Collier was nominated Feb. 14 to become the next federal judge in Chattanooga, sources in the federal government confirmed Monday.

President Clinton is expected to announce the nomination, which reportedly has the support of both of Tennessee's Republican senators.

If confirmed, Collier, a 1971 Tennessee State University graduate, will fill a District Court judgeship that has remained vacant since Congress created the post in October 1990.

Federal judges in East Tennessee long ago decreed that the new judge will sit in Chattanooga, as does U.S. District Judge T. Allan Edgar.

Collier, who has been a leading contender for the judgeship since his name first surfaced in 1993, would be the first black federal judge in Chattanooga.

His nomination is unlikely to encounter any strong opposition. He was recommended to the president by former U.S. Sen. Jim Sasser, a Democrat defeated last November.

Collier, a graduate of Duke University Law School, has handled numerous high-profile cases since he was named supervising assistant U.S. attorney in the Chattanooga office in 1987.

Last year, for example, he prosecuted Michael DeAngelo Green, who was convicted in an attempted carjacking that left East Ridge karate instructor Jeff Wolfe dead.

Collier joined the U.S. Department of Justice in 1979, immediately after serving five years in the judge advocate general's corps of the U.S. Air Force.

Prior to being assigned to Chattanooga, he was deputy chief of the 16-attorney criminal division of the federal prosecutor's office in New Orleans.

(Reprinted from *The Chattanooga Times*)

NOW HIRING QUALIFIED APPLICANTS

Luby's Cafeteria's, Inc. operating in Tennessee, Florida, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, Kansas, Arkansas, Missouri, and Louisiana is looking for people to enter its management training program.

To Qualify, You Must:

- * Be at least 22 years old
- * Be willing to relocate

We Strongly Prefer Candidates Who:

- * Have little or no food service management experience
- * Have a stable employment history

You Will Receive:

- * \$24,000 first year earnings
- * Merit raises and advancement
- * 6 figure potential income
- * Company funded profit sharing/retirement and stock purchase plan
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Black history essay contest offers prize

February is Black-History Month, and it's certain that many students on the TSU campus have taken time during these 28 days to reflect on their heritage and on the achievements of African-Americans.

Students, *The Meter* would like to know what Black-History Month means to you. Write an essay — 350 words or less — about either a significant event in African-American history, or the life of a famous African-American.

Submit your essay, type-written, double-spaced, to:

The Meter — P.O. Box 1246, Main Campus — by noon, March 1. Please include a title page with your name, local address and phone number in the lower left-hand corner.

Entries will be judged by *The Meter* editorial-board and adviser. Selection of winning essays will be based on content, clarity and style, and the three best entries will be published in the next edition of *The Meter*.

The grand-prize-winner will also receive dinner for two from the Green Hills Grille — up to a \$25.00 value. (*Meter* staff not eligible).

Civil Rights Museum visit is a great deal

By Robert Underwood
Contributing Writer

"In our differences is blessing. From our diversity there are many gifts to give one another. We can build, strengthen, and unify through this diversity."

Who says good deals are hard to find? The Student Melange of TSU is planning a trip to the Civil Rights museum in Memphis and the price is right!

The Student Melange of TSU is a new student organization here on campus. The objective of the Melange (which means a mixture) is to promote appreciation of cultural diversity, establish and promote relations between students, staff and faculty of diverse races, sexes, religions, and cultures. Also the Melange focuses on ideas that promote action to ensure a positive atmosphere for all.

Lana Barnes, Student Melange President, was one of 50 students selected nationally to participate at the National Conference on Freedom recently. The conference was supported by the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn. and Phillip Morris, Inc. The student delegates, along with the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tenn., are in the process of creating a National Student Coalition on college campuses. This new organization will be called "Students Envisioning Equality thru Diversity" or "S.E.E.D." The Student Melange of TSU hopes to be a part of this new National organization.

There are several projects already underway. January 23-28, the Melange took donations in the student center to place TSU's name on a brick which will help pave the historic courtyard at the Civil Rights Museum in Memphis.

The trip to the Memphis Civil Rights Museum will be on February 25. Tickets

are \$15.00, and that will include admission, a tour of the museum, lunch at a Memphis restaurant and transportation.

In the future the Melange plans to show a movie and bring in guest speakers to teach positive ways of handling racism. The Melange will also work with the Names Project Aids Memorial Quilt by organizing students who can volunteer their time and efforts with the display of the quilt. The quilt will be on display here in Nashville, on December 1, 1995 (World's AID's Day).

The Student Melange of TSU is a student organization which wants students of all races and cultures to participate in activities and share ideas. The student's ideas are what the Melange will focus on. For further information, please contact:

Lana Barnes, President; Robert Underwood, V. President; Tonya Sons, Treasurer, or Jill Eatherly, adviser, at 963-5640.

TSU UPDATE

Campus urged to recycle

Tommi Smith, waste coordinator in the Physical Plant, encourages all departments and students to report any hazardous wastes to 963-5683 or request pick up of materials that need to be recycled.

If you are interested in having a paper recycling bin, the recycle shop number is 963-5703 and the coordinator's number is 963-5683.

Pre-Alumni Council impacts

The Pre-Alumni Council (PAC) is a four-year-old organization that serves as

a liaison between the student body and the National Alumni Association. This organization sponsors activities such as movie night; food and clothing drive; recruitment program for high school students. It also delivers Christmas baskets for Hadley Retirement Center; organizes Black History Programs at McKissack Elementary School and participates in the Christmas Tree Lighting Program.

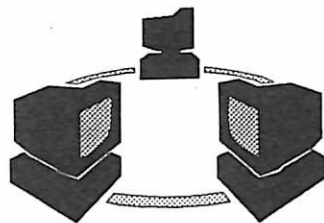
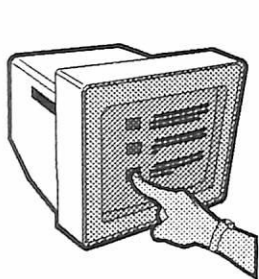
Students interested in becoming a member of PAC may contact Kimberly Terry, president, at 963-6083.

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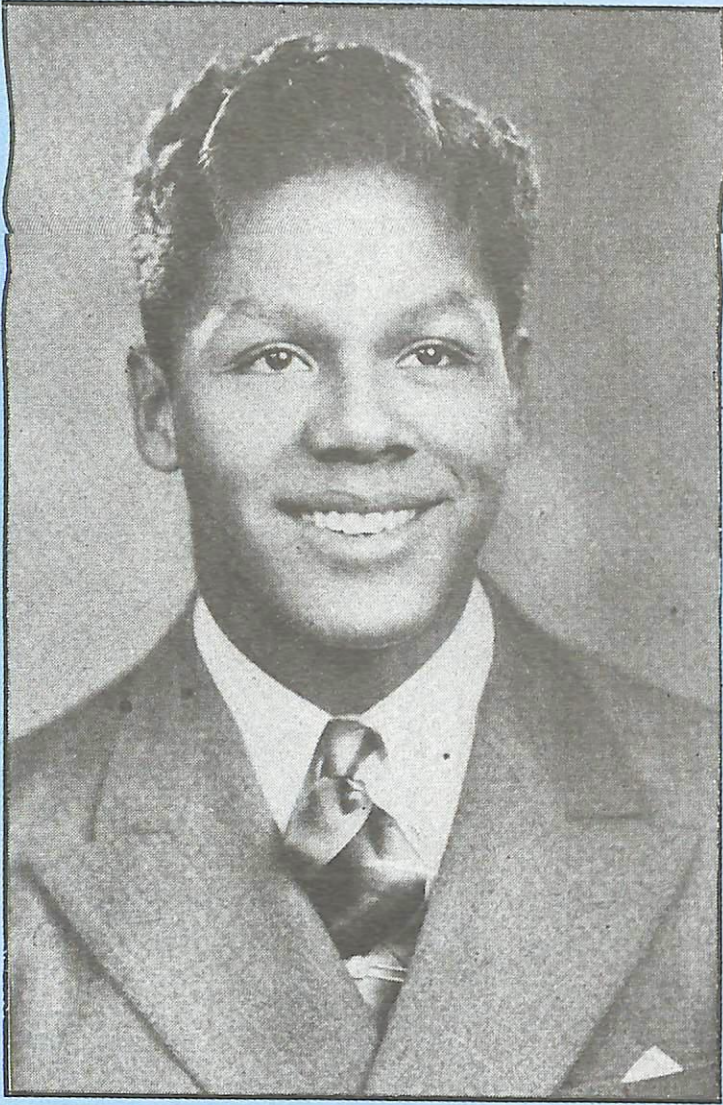
MARINE OFFICER

The USMC salutes Black History Month by recognizing those African Americans who have served as Officers in our Corps. Freshmen-Seniors should talk to Captain Simmons in the lobby of the Student Center from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on Feb. 14th to hear more about these officers and see if you can be one of the few and the proud!
For more information call 1-800-621-5510.

Howard Gentry, Sr.

1921-1995

C o a c h
Howard C.
Gentry, Sr.,
-is pictured
with his
wife, Car-
rie, whom
he married
in 1947.



A young and dapper Howard C. Gentry.



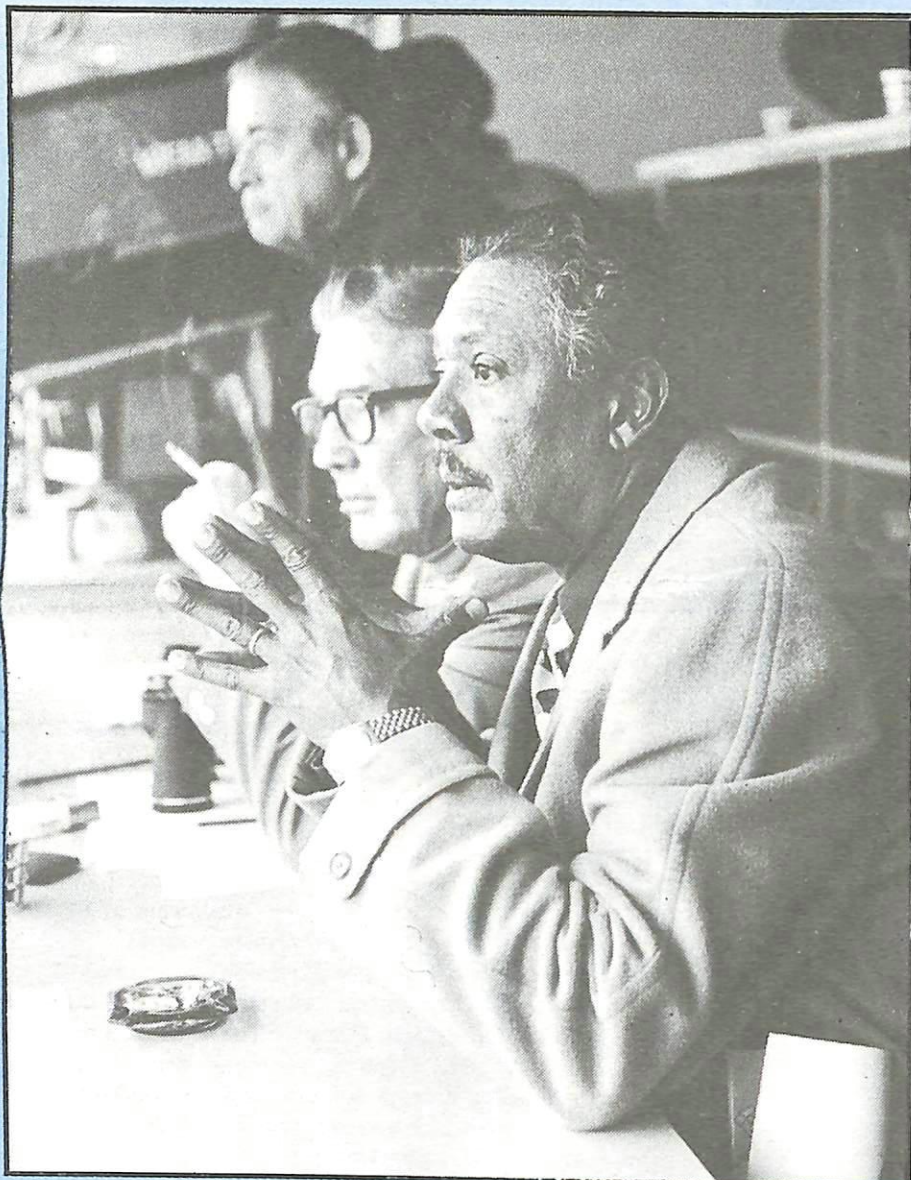
Famed TSU Tigerbelle Coach Ed Tem
Rudolph join Coach Howard C. Gentry S



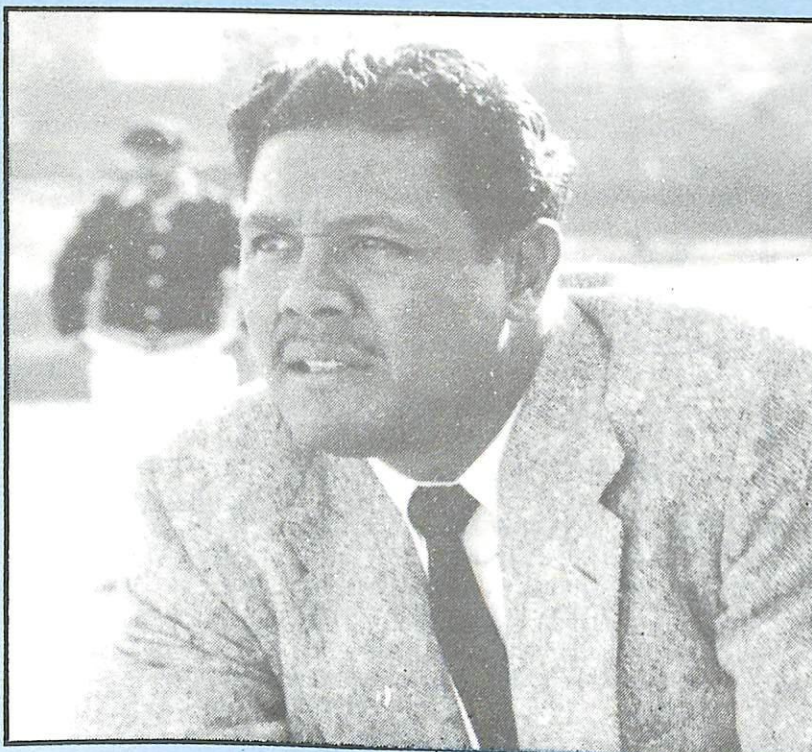
**C o a c h
Howard C.
Gentry, Sr.
gives a smile
after being in-
ducted into
the TSU
Sports Hall of
Fame in Oct.
1993.**



**ple and Olympic gold medalist Wilma
r. shortly after the 1960 Olympic games.**



**C o a c h
Howard
C. Gen-
try, Sr.,
then ath-
letic di-
rector,
watches
the TSU
football
Tigers
perform
in the
Pioneer
Bowl in
Shreve-
port, La.**



**With assis-
tant foot-
ball coach
J.C. Coffee
at his side,
C o a c h
Howard C.
Gentry, Sr.,
keeps a
careful
eye on his
1956 foot-
ball team.**

A Matter of Opinion

The Meter

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER
OF TENNESSEE STATE
UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1950

The Meter is published by and for the students of Tennessee State University. The opinions expressed in this newspaper do not necessarily represent the views of the administration, Student Government Association, faculty, or staff of Tennessee State University. The writers and *The Meter* Editorial Board are solely responsible for the content.

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The Meter
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Tennessee State University
3500 John Merritt Blvd.
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The Meter reserves the right to edit all articles submitted for publication.

Enough is enough about O.J.

Sonya Clark
Editorial/Opinion Editor

Enough is enough. And I am not talking about the number of people who are coming out of the wood-work to collect money off of the death of two innocent victims.

What I am referring to is the over abundance of media coverage in the O.J. Simpson trial, otherwise known as the trial of the century.

O.J.'s innocence or guilt is a question that has drowned the media since last summer after the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.

I am here to say that frankly I am sick of the media coverage, especially that of the broadcast media.

With each new development of the trial, I am often left wondering what the initial crime was and who's on trial.

At first it was O.J. in question and then came the book deals which supposedly told

the true story. Then there were the families of both O.J. and Nicole who supposedly know the true story of both parties. And finally we have poor Ron Goldman who is somewhat involved through association.

The question is not who killed Nicole Simpson and Ron Goldman but is there anyone, myself included, who cares to see the trial aired daily?

While many people are glued to their T.V. sets, many others are tired of the amount of coverage that this trial has generated.

After filtering out all of the sensationalism that comes along with the territory of presenting the news, many will agree that even though there is excessive coverage of the trial, there are many more who beg to differ.

From domestic violence to media scandal, many Americans are unable to get the O.J. coverage out of their system, no matter which channel you turn to on your television set.

It seems that this epidemic of O.J.ism has not only been confusing and time consuming, but has also been a comic show.

Now, with the lawyers getting their turn of media stardom, over the evidence revealed, the jury and the viewers may be waiting longer than anticipated for this trial to end.

One can only wonder to what extent the laws in this case are being challenged. With all the objections from the prosecution and the defense, I am inclined to wonder if all that is for real or are lawyers required to take acting classes.

With high profile lawyers defending O.J. Simpson and the lengths by the prosecution to get a conviction, is our system as solid as it should be?

If O.J. Simpson was just an ordinary man, without status and fame, would this case have generated so much publicity?

Are the rich and famous excused from heinous crimes while the poor are severely punished? (Continued on page 5)

Campus grounds reflect students attitudes

Like the sprouting of a new blade of grass in the Spring, Tennessee State University seeks to revive itself. This is evident in the variety of construction and renovation that the campus is undergoing. The work can be seen in the landscaping that is being done and the remodeling of several buildings, such as McCord Hall and the Women's Building. The TSU family may have also noticed the addition of new lower-level seats within the Howard Gentry Complex to accommodate more athletic fans.

However, like that blade of grass that sometimes become downtrodden by the feet of the insensitive, the growth of our campus will be retarded if we, students, faculty and administrators, do not nurture it.

The condition of the campus is a direct reflection of the individuals who inhabit it.

Addressing the improvements to the Gentry Complex, students are encouraged not to express their artistic talents (or lack thereof) on the seats. It is appalling that campus enhancements are rewarded by acts

of destructiveness. (The new Floyd-Payne Student Union Center, which was opened in the spring of 1993, has scratches and marks in it to prove my point).

Historically, Black institutions have had to struggle to maintain their existence. We, the TSU community, are fortunate to bear witness to a time when there are funds for improvements.

Let us not take it for granted and undermine the struggle of those who preceded us.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Cheerleaders say thanks

The Tennessee State University Cheerleaders performed a halftime explosion during the Capital City Classic basketball tournaments in Tallahassee Florida. The squad, consisting of 12 members, put on a great show. Doing a death defying stunt such as a toe touch basket toss to a ground-up pyramid to a back tuck basket toss had the audience's eyes glazing in amazement. To some squads this stunt is difficult but to the TSU squad it's just natural. This particular stunt was designed and perfected by the hard working coach, Lisa M. Jones. We, the TSU Cheerleaders and Coach Jones would like to thank the TSU Alumni, Administration, and all coaches for their support in making cheerleading what it needs to be here at TSU. We can proudly say that Cheerleading has a new meaning and you are the definition.

Sincerely,
The 1994-95 TSU Cheerleading Staff

Elevator incident creates frightening experience

How should one feel when the elevator that is transporting them to their destination stops dead in its tracks? With no correctly working alarm or telephone to inform anyone that you're trapped and no strength to yell the word "help" because fear got the best of you.

These are just a few of the feelings that ran through my body recently when I experienced being trapped in the elevator in

Eppse Hall. I was on my way back from a concert and decided to go back out after I went to my room to pick up a pair of flat shoes.

I rode the elevator up without a problem, but riding down was a different story. I stepped on the elevator after another resident just stepped off. It rode down smoothly until it reached the fourth floor. It suddenly began bouncing fiercely leaving me with only the choice of sliding to the floor waiting for it to end.

The bouncing stopped and I tried to push the alarm button but it was not working. I then mustered up enough strength to yell and bang on the door. I got no response and I suddenly feared that I was not going to get out.

A female resident finally yelled to me to let me know that they were trying to get me out. Security came and began trying to pry the door open. I then was told I was stuck on the third floor although the elevator read four. With that in mind, I asked the officer to send someone to get my male friend. The officer replied: "There ain't nothing he can do to help you right now." I got angry and yelled "maybe he can't but hearing his voice and knowing someone is there may comfort me a bit". The prying continued for a few more minutes and I was still denied my request.

I heard no voices for a while and became frightened again. I looked at the walls around me and it seemed like they were getting smaller by the second. I was not aware that I was claustrophobic until this incident.

Minutes later I heard my male friend yell to me to let me know he was there and they were still trying to get the door open. In

the meantime, I told the officer I was becoming short of breath, but with what sounded like insincerity in his voice, he told me to stop talking so I could breathe properly.

After fifteen minutes the door finally opened but we realized I was too low down to pull out. Someone then placed a chair in the elevator for me to step on but still not a soul reached out to help me. The security officers offered no help, and just stood there waiting for me to find my way out.

Finally, my very impatient male friend reached in and stuck his head under the elevator and pulled me out. He embraced me for comfort as I cried from still being frightened. The officer then told me to hurry up and go down the steps because I was on the wrong floor. At the time I was unaware of my surroundings due to this frightening experience.

I remained uncomfortable for over an hour—I wheezed for breath, became weak and could not comprehend much that was said to me, but with the help of friends and my dorm director my condition improved.

Sincerely,
Takiyah Y. Carter

To the student body: Thank you

The Ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Alpha Psi Chapter would like to thank the student body for their support and encouragement, particularly throughout AKA week. We look forward to serving you in future activities.

Thank you.
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Alpha Psi Chapter

'Justice for all' is in question

By Mozel Avery
Staff Writer
Commentary

"...With Liberty and Justice for all." These words are recited by millions of American children at the beginning of each school day. We all grew up believing these promises as our basic rights as Americans regardless of our race, color or creed.

But is there really justice for all or is there indeed a justice for the rich and a different brand of justice for the poor? Of course there is.

In America where money talks and all else walks, why wouldn't there be a rich mans justice and a poor mans justice?

Americas need to wake up and see that we are living in a country where the affluent get justice and the poor only get injustice.

A prime example of this is the O.J. Simpson case. Here we have a black man

from the inner-city who beat the odds and became a millionaire. He was our All-American hero.

O.J., with all his millions is charged with a double-murder and yet somehow was allowed to lead the police on a chase down the highway.

Robert Shapiro and the rest of O.J.'s defense team have fought tooth and nail over a piece of physical evidence; and even wanted to conduct their own test on blood and hair samples.

Even with the preponderance of evidence against Simpson, most would say that O.J. still has a fair chance of being found innocent of the charges against him. If this occurs, some will say his money bought his freedom.

A poor man charged with these crimes would not have the same chance for freedom as O.J. A man in Simpon's shoes,

without money for council, would have a public defender.

In The March 29, 1994 issue of *Time* magazine, public defenders are described as "more interested in dumping cases than mounting rigorous defenses."

In essence, a poor man should prepare to face life imprisonment, whether guilty or not, if charged with a similar crime.

The Simpson case is the most recent, but not the only, case in which the affluent have had the privilege of a different justice system than the average or less fortunate American.

There has been the Menendez case, the William Kennedy Smith case, as well as the check bouncing scandal in the House of Representatives. It is inconceivable that the average American could face any of the charges in these cases and come out unscathed.

This country was built on the belief that all men are created equal, but do we truly believe that?

In my opinion, society has given us many reasons to support the fact that money, not race or national origin, determines whether one gets justice in America.

We are living in a dangerous time when justice seems to be rationed out according to a sliding scale. No amount of money should guarantee anyone a free walk if they are guilty of any crime, large or small.

Chief Justice Harold Clarke of the Georgia Supreme Court was quoted in *Time* saying, "We need to remember that if the state can deny justice to the poor, it has within its grasps the power to deny justice to anybody." Can we really say that in this country there is "liberty and justice for all?"

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Enough of O.J.

(Continued from page 8)

Or, are the highly profiled, unjustly prosecuted through media sensationalism while the average citizen occasionally gets the hard arm of the law?

With the O.J. Simpson trial, one can only assume what biases are involved. Whether he is on trial for murder or domestic violence remains unclear, not only in the

public eye but also in the courtroom.

As this trial raises many questions about the society in which we live, one can only hope that even after the trial is over, these societal questions will be answered.

The fact that the media will continue to drown the airwaves with more coverage on the trial is unquestionable.

As for myself and those who agree that enough is enough, this would definitely be a good time to catch up on some reading.

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Entertainment

TPAC Jammed to Rafters for 'Let Freedom Ring'

By Roger Lee Randles
News Editor

"Let Freedom Ring," a musical tribute to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., attracted a sellout crowd of more than 2,000 people to the Tennessee Performing Arts Theater on January 15.

For this special occasion, the Nashville Symphony, under the direction of Kenneth Schermerhorn and Karen Lynne Deal, were joined on TPAC's Jackson Hall stage by the 120-voice Celebration Choir and special guest performers Diana Poe and Barry Scott.

The Celebration Choir--comprised of members of the Tennessee State University Choir and members of several local church choirs--opened the program with a prayerful rendition of "Lift Every Voice and Sing," Karen Deal conducting. Deal provided a crisp, precise baton technique which enabled her to lead both orchestra and chorus through a delightful presentation.

Next, the orchestra, under Deal's direction, brought to life Adolphus Hailstork's "Celebration Overture." This piece, both lively and grand, enabled the orchestra to display tremendous power, and generated a powerful audience response in the form of sustained applause....

The Glenn Burleigh-arranged "Spiritual Medley," directed by Poe, TSU's choir director, was a sparkling showcase for the chorus. This difficult piece combines six familiar spirituals--including "We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder" and "Ezekiel Saw The Wheel"--while dashing through numerous changes in tempo, rhythm and dynamics. With Poe's guidance, the choir gave a sensational reading while displaying nice, centered tones, and good harmonic balance between sections.

A bit later, Poe--who is an accomplished lyric soprano--took center stage, and backed by the Chorus, sang the wonderful Carlton Young arrangement of "I Have A Dream." This was an absolute show-stopper! Poe has been blessed with gold-plated pipes...a million-dollar voice, and control beyond the imagination. (Of course, it didn't hurt audience reaction that this text was taken from Dr. King's best known speech!)

Duke Ellington's "Harlem" received an excellent treatment by the orchestra under Maestro Schermerhorn's direction. "Harlem" is part of a larger work, "Suite For New York," and is a masterpiece of the jazz idiom. From the opening wah-wahs growled on trumpet, to the rollicking 5-minute full

throttle percussion-frolic ending, the Maestro's troops did Ellington proud! The blend on this night was superior, as each part of the 70-piece orchestral puzzle fit perfectly.

The highly animated Maestro was--as usual--a joy to watch as he rocked the podium commanding the orchestra equally with a huge pass of the baton...or a subtle nod.

The largest ovation of the evening occurred after actor Barry Scott (who played Shakespeare's Othello at TPAC in '94) read an essay written by Highland Heights Middle School student Jerome Overton. The essay, "Jangling Discords," was the grand prize winner in the "I, Too, Have a Dream" Essay Contest, and the audience showed great appreciation for the young man's work which concluded with these memorable words:

"Let all the people of this nation join together. Let Democrats, Republicans, Independents, and Libertarians join hands to create the condition necessary to ensure that this nation will not vanish from the earth. In the words of the great patriot, Thomas Paine, 'For evil men to succeed, it is only necessary for good men to do nothing.'"

The only sour notes of the evening were sounded by the audience when several people (from all around the auditorium) got up to leave as Scott "became" Dr. King for a spirited realistic reading of King's "I've Been To The Mountaintop" speech. Would they have walked out on King? One wonders....

Beat cold weather with a good book

by Lisa Ojeshina
Entertainment editor

When it is 20 degrees outside and your body can't take the cold, curl up to a good book and a thick blanket. Don't panic! Campus Paperback Bestseller is back again to keep you informed on what's on the shelves. The top 10 best sellers for the month of January were:

1. **Interview With the Vampire** by Anne Rice. (\$6.99) This novel launched The Vampire Chronicles.
2. **Disclosure**, by Michael Crichton. (\$6.99) Read page after page as it takes you into sexual harassment at an electronics firm in the West Coast.
3. **Homicidal Psycho Jungle Cat**, by Bill Watterson. (\$12.95) It's the latest Calvin and Hobbes collection.
4. **The Vampire Lestat**, by Anne Rice. (\$6.99) What's the deal about vampires Anne Rice! This book is about a vampire turned rock star.
5. **The Shipping News**, by E. Annie Proulx. (\$12.00) Tells the story of a newspaperman who returns to his childhood home after his wife dies.
6. **Forrest Gump**, by Winston Groom. (\$5.50) A simple Alabama man travels three decades back through American History.
7. **Embraced by the Light**, by Betty J. Eadie with Curtis Taylor. (\$5.99) A woman's near death experience.
8. **Having Our Say**, by Sarah L. Delany and A. Elizabeth Delany. (\$5.99) Tells the story of two sisters who reflect on their lives.
9. **Without Remorse**, by Tom Clancy. (\$6.99) How American prisoners in North Vietnam were rescued.
10. **Care of the Soul**, by Thomas Moore. (\$12.00) A guide to the everyday life of spirituality.

New and Recommended:

Paddy Clarke Ha Ha Ha, by Roddy Doyle. (\$10.95) Tells the story of a ten-year-old boy who -- with his triumphs, indignities, and bewilderment -- tries to make sense of a today's changing world.

Growing Up Asian American, by Maria Hong, Ed. (\$12.50) Tells the story of 32 Asian American writers, who describe their childhood and coming of age in America during the 1800s to the 1900s.

Heart Touching, Foot Stomping Music at TPAC

By Jason Russell
Entertainment Writer

A new smash hit with a powerful message landed in Nashville recently. "Mamma I'm Sorry," by Michael Matthews is a spiritually uplifting production that was written to help us realize the importance of motherhood. The play stresses that mothers are deserving of our honor and respect because whatever you do for them, they have already done for you.

In the play, Tony Award winner Melba Moore portrays Mrs. Evans, the mother of four.

The plot revolves around how she

deals with the loss of her husband and the turbulence involved with her sons changes from boys to men. Two of her sons have no respect for her. The other two sons have no respect for their brothers, and will not allow their brothers to use their mother. This combination sets the stage for a fiery, exciting production.

"Mamma I'm Sorry" has assembled a star-studded cast which includes David Peaston (recording artist), Ronnie Wilson (member of the Gap Band), Kene Holliday (from television's Matlock), A.J. Johnson (Menace To Society & House Party) and many more.

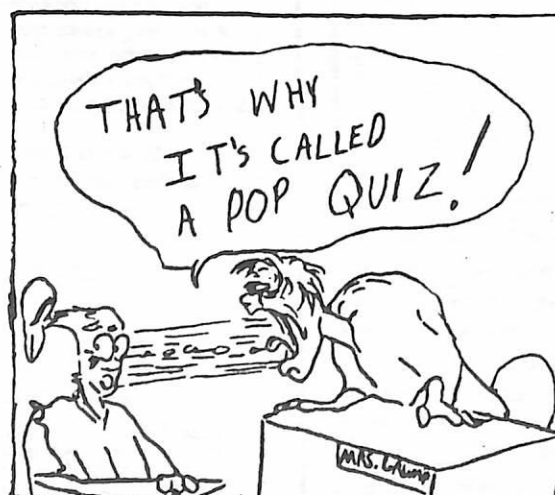
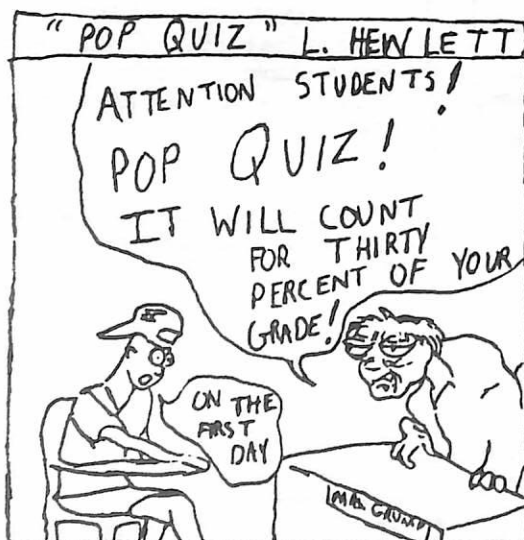
This exciting play ran at TPAC on February 3 - 5.

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TSU Basketball Finding OVC Competition Tough

Lady Tigers have a big job on their hands

By Aleathea Harris
Sports Writer

The Lady Tigers find themselves in the unenviable position of having to rely on help in order to win their second conference title under Teresa Lawrence Philips.

Although they beat Tennessee Tech Monday night, they still are in third place in the conference.

Carolyn Aldridge was named OVC player-of-the-week for the week ending Feb. 18. She scored 92 points, had 14 assists and added 9 steals in leading the Lady Tigers to three conference wins.

On Feb. 6, the Lady Tigers led off a double-header loss -- the men later followed their example -- for the second straight game as they fell to the APSU Lady Governors Monday night in Clarksville, 67-62. The loss left them with a 15-4 record overall, 8-3 in the OVC.

The loss marked the first time this season the Lady Tigers lost back-to-back games, and made capturing the conference title -- a season-long expectation -- a bit tougher. Connie Swift led all scorers with 25 points, while Carolyn Aldridge was held to 11 -- 14 below her season average.

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the Lady Tigers lost a heartbreaker, that knocked them out of first place, to Tennessee Tech, 87-78.



Carolyn Aldridge is The Lady Tigers all-time leading scorer. Photo by Sam Jordan

Although Carolyn Aldridge led all scorers with 25 points, the Golden Eaglettes led most of the game.

The Lady Tigers, coming off a three game losing streak against Tech, Austin Peay and UT Martin, captured three wins over Morehead, ECU, and a powerful 76-70 victory over MTSU. MTSU entered the Feb. 18 game in first place, but left tied for second place with Tennessee Tech (one game

behind ECU). The Lady Tigers are presently tied for third place (19-5, 10-4 in the OVC).

After smoking Southeast Missouri State in the Show Me Center, the Lady Tigers marched into Racer Arena and over Murray State 82-57.

Again led by Carolyn Aldridge, the ladies from Tennessee State maintained their focus and kept their eyes fixed on another conference title and another trip to the NCAA tournament.

Although the Lady Racers appeared to be ready for the Lady Tigers, their preparation did little to help them overcome the consistent inside game Coach Teresa Lawrence Philips has developed.

For the game, Aldridge poured in 17 points, Connie Swift had her usual stellar contribution with 13 points and Latessa Hickerson added 16.

In the SEMO game, Aldridge led TSU with 20 points followed by 14 each from Swift and Crystal Marshall.

Connie Swift was named OVC Player of the Week (week ending January 15th) in the wins over Austin Peay and UT-Martin. She had 27 points, 9 rebounds, and seven steals against Austin Peay and followed with a career high 30 points and 10 rebounds against UT-Martin.

In the game against Martin on Jan. 7, Aldridge's 33 points and Swift's 30 points marked the first time in TSU history two players had 30 or more points in the same game.

Coming off a devastating loss to ECU, the Lady Tigers went on to win the next three home games against MTSU 68-56, SEMO 88-51, and Murray State 74-52. They recently defeated SEMO in Missouri, 68-61.

With no conference games remaining, the Lady Tigers must set their sights on the OVC tournament as their path back to the Big Dance.

SCHEDULE

WOMEN

February 27

University of Alabama

7:00

March 4-6

Ohio Valley Conference Tournament

.....

MEN

February 25

Western Kentucky (ESPN)

1:00 pm

February 27

Jackson State

7:30 pm

March 2-4 Ohio Valley Conference Tournament

Bittersweet loss clinch a share of OVC Title

By Terri Selvidge
Sports Writer

Tennessee State's Tigers secured the top seed for the OVC tournament and can clinch the title outright if Austin Peay defeats Murray State on Saturday afternoon.

The Tigers could have clinched the title with a win against MTSU on Saturday night, but the Tigers lost a heartbreaker in double overtime 77-76.

The Tigers had another shot at the title on Monday but lost to Tennessee Tech in Cookeville by a score of 95-83.

In the MTSU game, the Tigers were down 57 to 51 with 35 seconds to play, but sophomore Damon Page sent the game into overtime by drilling two three pointers. Page had a career high 22 points and Monty Wilson added 21.

Meanwhile, Morehead State came into the Gentry Center, Feb 11th, trailing the Tigers by only a half game. The Eagles dominated the first 10 minutes of the game jumping out to a 9 point lead but the Tigers' Tim Horton poured in 15 first half points to give the Tigers a 36 to 35 lead at the half.

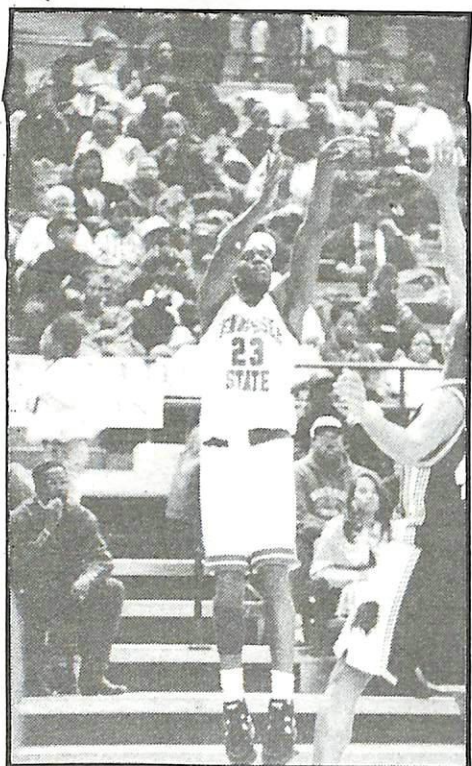
The Tigers couldn't shut the door on the Eagles, who scored 5 points with only 36 seconds remaining to send the game into overtime.

The Tigers defense shut down the Eagles as the Tigers scored 13 unanswered points to win the game. The only goal the Eagles made was a 10-foot jumper with 3 seconds left.

Balanced scoring was the key to victory as the Tigers had 4 players scoring in double digits. Horton had 24, followed by Jeff Johnson with 19. Monty Wilson had 16 and Curtis Davis poured in 12 points. Horton also led both teams in rebounding with 12.

It was another nail-biter on Monday, Feb. 13 as TSU squandered a 13-point lead in the first half and let the Eastern Kentucky Colonels pull to within 1 at the half.

The Tigers, looking to clinch at least a tie for the OVC title, fell behind by 5 points with ten minutes left to play. They came back behind the scoring of Calvin Morris and two key blocks and a steal by Albert Bond. DeMarkus Doss got in a little showtime for Eastern Kentucky with a 360



Wilson averages just over 19 points per game. Photo by Sam Jordan

back to the basket dunk to close the gap to two. The game looked in doubt when Arlando Johnson hit a 3 pointer to give Eastern a 1 point lead with a minute left. Davis drove the lane for two and Horton hit a free throw to seal the win for the Tigers, 63 to 61.

Calvin Morris had a game high 21 points to lead the Tigers, he also led the Tigers in steals with 4 and grabbed 7 rebounds. This was the only game this season when only one player scored in double figures. Horton had 9 rebounds and 7 assists. Sophomore Damon Page had 9 points.

Tennessee State's once-cushy lead in the Ohio Valley Conference evaporated as the Tigers lost to the APSU Governors in Clarksville, 89-78. The loss left the Tigers with a 14-5 mark overall, 8-3 in the conference with five OVC games remaining.

After enjoying what was at one time a comfortable lead in the conference, the loss to APSU -- the Tigers second straight defeat -- left the Tigers tied with Morehead State for first place in the OVC.

The Governors, like all the other teams

in the conference, faced the Tigers with a single goal -- bring down the big boys. Bring them down they did. After taking the lead early in the first half, the Govs held off late rallies to knock the Tigers from their once-lofty post.

On Saturday, Feb. 4, the Tigers lost their first home game of the season to Tennessee Tech, 79-73. Although they led 31-26 at the half, the Tigers got into foul trouble early in the second half and the Golden Eagles were able to capitalize at the line. Calvin Morris led the Tigers in scoring with 21 points, followed by Monty Wilson who, as usual, scored 19 points.

Against Murray State on Jan. 30, the Tigers looked like the conference favorite they're supposed to be. After early dominance by the Tigers, the Racers roared back to tie the score 28-28 at halftime.

As the second half got underway, the Racers appeared to be on a mission and by the 14-minute mark had opened up a 13-point lead.

Enter Monty Wilson and Tim Horton. Wilson, who had struggled early, caught fire hitting two 3-pointers within 30 seconds of each other and narrowing the Racers lead.

Horton finished with a game-high 26 points as the Tigers pulled off a 72-65 win at Racer Arena.

At Southeast Missouri, the Tigers suffered their first OVC loss of the year and ended a nine-game winning streak.

SEMO's Jermall Morgan hit a 16-foot jumper with 15 seconds left to put the Indians on top 66-64 and seal the victory after Monty Wilson missed a 3-pointer with three seconds remaining.

Wilson, Horton and Jeff Johnson continued to show why they're so valuable to Tennessee State this year as they combined for 48 of the Tigers' 64 points.

So as the season winds down, the Tigers have positioned themselves for another shot at the OVC title. With the loss to Tech on Monday night, they'll need a little help. But as it stands, they've at least gotten a share of the regular season title and a first round bye.

Although they have no more conference games remaining, the Tigers will get a

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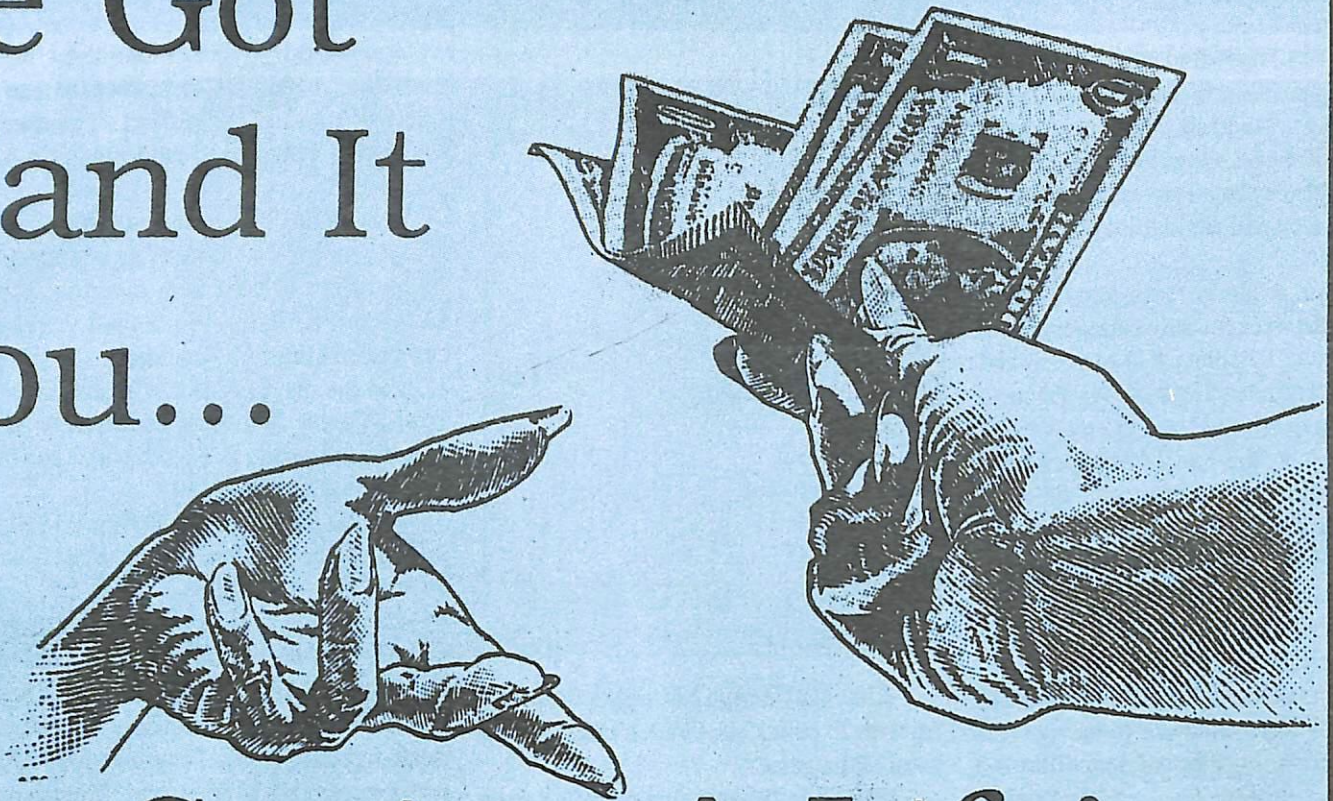
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chance to rest some regulars and get some national exposure as they take on Westers Kentucky Saturday on ESPN at 1:00 p.m.

The final regular season game is in the Gentry Center against Jackson State on Feb. 27 at 7:30.

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